

Amendments to the Abstract

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A core splitter (10) comprises a ~~through~~ trough in which a core support (30) is carried. A cutting head (200) carries a rotary cutting tool (224) which is contained within a cowling. The trough contains a water bath (372) in which the core (360) is located below the water level so that the cutting operation take place in the water. A settling tank (140) is provided at one end of the trough so that any cuttings are moved to the settling tank (140). During the cutting operation, the core is mounted in a core carrier, which is supported by the core support.